

A novel β -fructofuranosidase gene and a β -fructofuranosidase encoded by the gene, a process for isolating a β -fructofuranosidase gene using the novel β -fructofuranosidase gene, and a novel β -fructofuranosidase obtained by this isolation process are disclosed. A novel mold fungus having no β -fructofuranosidase activity suitable for the production of β -fructofuranosidase, and a system for producing a recombinant β -fructofuranosidase using the novel mold fungus as a host is disclosed. Further, a β -fructofuranosidase variant which selectively and efficiently produces a specific fructooligosaccharide such as 1-kestose from sucrose is disclosed.